

Rugby: champions known

The national rugby championship is drawing to a close. The Yuri Gagarin Air Force Academy team, who have won the title with two more games to go, have been taking it easy in training of late. This is their eighth such title to date and all these years they have been guided by head coach Yevgeny Antonov.

This was the most strenuous season for me yet, he said. Our side faced such a stiff competition for the first time. The final eight-strong stage had no obvious underdogs. The toughest opposition came from Slavia, the second Moscow watch factory, who made it impossible for us to win the title much earlier than we have been doing. There was a time when we were ten points ahead of the nearest opponents but this advantage shrank to just one. I am thinking now of ways to eliminate the shortcomings which transpired in our games against Slavia.

Antonov also said that his team would stick to its style based on speed, athleticism,



Air Force Academy team beat Moscow Pili 13-7 to win the national title. Photo by Sergei Proskov

technical mastery and flexible tactics. Four of his charges have been invited to the national squad — the European championship silver medallists.

On October 20 they will play their first away game in the new championship against Romania and host Italy on November 10 in Moscow.

John McEnroe — the most unpopular champion

Triple Wimbledon winner John McEnroe is the most unpopular champion among his compatriots, according to the Parisian "L'Equipe".

A survey conducted by the "USA Today" newspaper revealed that 31 per cent of the polled felt offended by McEnroe's misconduct during the matches. Another 25 per cent admitted they were also offended by the "silly" conduct though would rather consider it as some "spectacle".

The Soviet men and women's volleyball teams have won the European titles in Holland.

At right the captain of the men's team Vyacheslav Zaitsev, with the cup.

Telephone AP-TASS



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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies.

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Cups for the GDR, U.S.

US sportsmen and GDR sportswomen won the three-day finals of the world athletic cup in Canberra. Winding up the event with a beautiful "winning chord", taking on the final day all the five events (two with new world records by Maria Koch in the 400 m — 47.60 sec and the quartet of sprinters in the 4x100 relay — 41.37), the GDR totalled 121 points. The USSR is in second place with 105.5 points, followed by Europe with 86, America with 62.5, the US with 61, Oceania with 52, Asia with 42 and Africa with 41 points.

The US men's team won with 123 points. The USSR placed second with 114, Europe 97.5, Africa 81, America 80, Oceania 65 and Asia 39.5 points. The Soviet teams, which placed second in the fourth such cup, proved their good reputation at this high point of the



Olga Gavrilova of the USSR won the women's javelin with a 66 m 80 cm throw in the world athletics cup. Photo AP-TASS

Issues to be solved in December

FIFA President Josep Sureda said on arrival in Mexico recently that his federation would give a final verdict in December on whether the 1986 world cup finals will be held in Mexico or moved elsewhere because of the recent devastating earthquake.

During his stay Sureda will visit the stadiums in the capital expected to host some of the games, including the opening and the final matches. His trip's main objective is to find out the stadiums' readiness for the future games and the post-quake condition. Press reports on this score are extremely confusing.

Mexican Government spokesmen have repeatedly stressed that the quake failed to damage either the stadiums or the hotels and that the country was prepared to stage the championships.

But Sureda believes only a personal inspection can provide an accurate picture.

As originally planned, the championship is to kick off on May 30, 1986.

KOECK KILLED IN A CAR CRASH

One of Belgium's top footballers Koek died in a car crash on a highway between Antwerp and Brussels. He was 30.

Apart from being a talented playmaker he was a superb striker. He twice won the national title and the European cup on three occasions with Anderlecht. More recently he joined Italian Inter.

Starting his career at 16, he was on the national team of 1982 Spain World Cup final and in last year's European finals in France.

According to the Belgian team's head coach Guy Thys, he was the team's top man over the past five years. He was priming for games with Inter which would determine a place to the World Cup finals in Mexico.

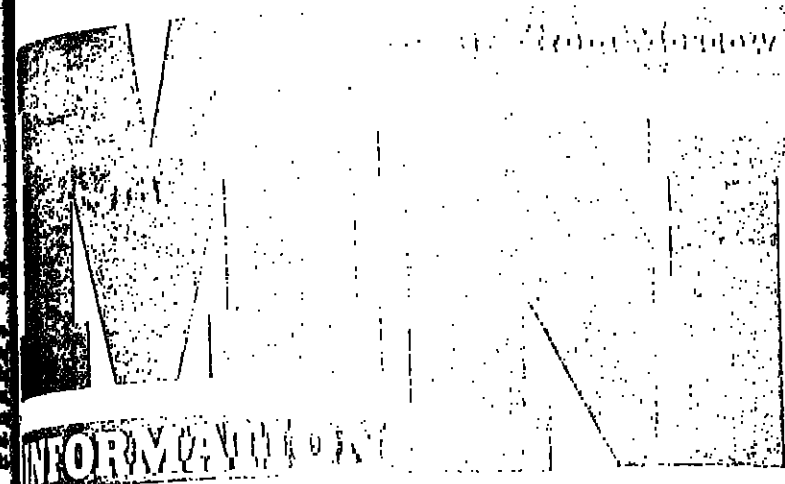
Vladimir McMillan



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USSR sign cooperation programme

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CPSU Central Committee Calls

SOVIET NEWSPAPERS HAVE PUBLISHED CALLS BY THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE ON THE EVE OF THE 68TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT OCTOBER SOCIALIST REVOLUTION.

They outline the major tasks facing the Soviet people in advancing the national economy, science, culture and socialist democracy.

The Central Committee stresses that the Soviet foreign policy is aimed at promoting lasting peace and security of nations and at maintaining broad international cooperation. The Communist Party welcomes the unity, cooperation and the strengthening of links among socialist countries and their unshakable resolve to consolidate and uphold the gains of socialism as well as peace on Earth. The Calls urge the peoples of the world to:

→ consolidate the unity of world socialism, the international proletariat and national liberation movement;

→ resolutely fight against imperialist policy of aggression and violence;

→ demand the cessation of aggressive acts by the United States against Nicaragua;

→ seek the withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab lands and an end to imperialist intervention in the affairs of Arab countries;

→ demand an end to the acts of aggression against independent African states and work for the elimination of the shameful apartheid system in South Africa;

→ work towards the attainment of independence for the people of Namibia;

→ intensify the efforts to eliminate the threat of nuclear war, prevent the arms race from spilling into outer space, stop it here on Earth and seek complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Communist Party of the USSR urges the peoples of Europe to:

→ fight for lasting peace and cooperation in Europe and a return to détente, and

→ seek elimination of chemical weapons in Europe.

The Calls also state that ensuring peace and security in Asia is the task of all the peoples of Asia.

→ Let us join our efforts in order to turn Asia and the Pacific into a zone of peace, good neighbourliness and cooperation.



Boris Stavitky. "Lenin, 1921". Vladimir Yurkin. "We Bring the World Creative Work and Peace".

Works of Moscow artists on display

An exhibition of works by Moscow artists has opened at the Central Artist Club, 10/14 Krymskaya Embankment. Among the works are paintings and drawings, monumental painting and sculpture, theatre and film sets, decorative and applied art and designs, as well as posters. The show is devoted to the 27th CPSU Congress.

On display are over 3,000 items by more than one thousand authors done within the past five years. Some of the works are displayed in the exhibition halls in 11 Kuznetsky Most St, 7/9 Begovaya St, 10 Remizova St, and 65 Vavilova St.

How Salyut-7 was brought back to life

Cosmonauts Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Georgi Grechko, who visited the orbital Salyut-7 station, recently spoke at a press conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry press centre.

For me, everything started with my selection as member of

a crew formed after communication with the station had broken down and it ran out of control, said Vladimir Dzhanibekov. No one could reconcile himself to the idea that the station, which was still in a workable condition, was irretrievably lost. The consensus was that the station had to be reactivated, which meant that a crew had to go to its rescue.

He spoke of the way they docked with the station. That, he stressed, proved it was possible to approach disabled satellites for inspection, repair and maintenance work. It has special urgency.

In the process of solving the problem of reactivating the crew of a manned spaceship unable to get back to Earth due to on-board system failures.

One of my objectives during that mission, said flight engineer Grechko, was to facilitate crew shift right "on the move".

An eventful occasion in our space life with Viktor Savinykh, he continued, was the arrival at the station of a visiting expedition made up of Vladimir Vasyutin, Georgi Grechko and Alexander Volkov.

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Earthquake shakes Central Asia

A severe earthquake shook parts of Tajikistan at 7 p.m. Moscow time on October 13. The "Dushanbe" seismic station reports that the epicentre was 230 kilometres north-east of the Tajik capital, Dushanbe, and 40 kilometres east of Leninabad where the tremor was felt. The station reported eight points on the Richter scale in the cities of Dushanbe, Kuljib, and Nurek; the tremor was three to four points in the cities of Leninabad, Dushanbe, and Nurek. The heaviest devastation occurred on the outskirts of the town of Kalakum where adobe houses were destroyed. In the nearby villages and an asphalt motorway was washed off by a landslide.

The earthquake caused damage to industrial, administrative buildings, dwelling apartments as well as schools, cultural and service establishments in Kalakum itself and in the Khojatin Region. A number of people were killed or wounded. With rescue teams continuing their operations, all necessary assistance is being given to the victims.

Tremors were also being felt in the neighbouring republics of Uzbekistan. Five-point tremors have been registered in Tashkent and the Fergana valley. In Samarkand, the tremors registered three to four points.

Handwritten text in Cyrillic script, likely a signature or note, written vertically on the right margin of the page.

